

Minutes of the Telephonic Meeting of the
Arizona Game and Fish Commission
Wednesday, April 26, 2006 – 10:00 a.m.
Arizona Game and Fish Department
2221 W. Greenway Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85023

PRESENT: (Commission)

(Director's Staff)

In person:
Chairman Joe Melton

In person:
Director Duane L. Shroufe
Deputy Director Steve K. Ferrell

Via telephone:
Commissioner Michael Golightly
Commission William McLean
Commissioner Bob Hernbrode

Via telephone:
Assistant Attorney General Jim Odenkirk

Chairman Melton called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Director Shroufe conducted roll call confirming those who were present. Commissioner Gilstrap was not present. This meeting followed an agenda dated April 25, 2006.

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1. Proposed changes to SB 1441; Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Fund.

Presenter: Anthony Guiles, Legislative Liaison

Mr. Guiles briefed the Commission on proposed changes to Senate Bill 1441 that related to projects for the Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Fund appropriation.

Commissioner McLean stated that he understood the negotiated/compromised changes to be: 1) in section 2, line 30, the words "only for the following purposes" will be changed to "to be used for the following purposes" and 2) the list of 17 items will be reduced to 5 with no order of priority. Those 5 items will be: Anderson Mesa Grassland Restoration; Kaibab Winter Range Habitat Improvements; Yuma Region Water Redevelopments; Wildlife Water Redevelopments, North of the Colorado River; and Pinetop Region Deer Habitat Restoration (e.g. Chitty Creek, Pigeon, and Sheep Wash). The order of priority will be set by a majority vote of the Commission at a public meeting and with public input.

Commissioner Hernbrode stated that the list of 5 items were provided to the Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife and Suzanne Gilstrap.

Commissioner Golightly stated for the record that the 5 items were not listed in any priority and that the Commission will, after public comment, entertain the specifics of each project and vote to determine how much funding and priority that these projects will receive.

Commissioner McLean stated that Commissioner Golightly was correct and that they would vote on how much money per item when they know how much money will be in the fund.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and McLean seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO SB 1441 AS DISCUSSED, INCLUDING THE LIST OF 5 PROJECTS AND THE PRIORITY WILL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION.

Commissioner McLean seconded with the understanding that this motion pertains to the bill as amended with no further changes.

Vote: Unanimous
4 to 0
Gilstrap absent

Commissioner Golightly explained his vote stating that he has consistently voted negatively toward any General Fund money, however, in this case he believes that this is a one-time effort by the Legislature to replace money that they took when the State of Arizona was in a budget crunch. In the future, Commissioner Golightly would not support General Fund money that would be extended to the Department with direction from the Legislature on how to use it.

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2. State and Federal Legislation

Presenter: Anthony Guiles, Legislative Liaison

This item was not addressed.

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Chairman Melton adjourned the meeting.

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Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

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Joe Melton, Chairman

Michael M. Golightly, Member

William H. McLean, Member

Robert Hernbrode, Member

W. Hays Gilstrap, Member

ATTEST:

Duane L. Shroufe
Secretary and Director